

The specification has been amended to indicate that the international application on which it is based was published in English under Article 21 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

Applicant hereby petitions that any extension of time required for the filing of these papers be granted and that the extension fee be charged to Account No. 02-2553.

Please charge any additional fee which may be required to Account No. 02-2553.

Should any Patent Office Official want to telephone, the call should be made to John C. Hunt (Registration No. 36,424) at (416) 863-4344.

Yours very truly,



John C. Hunt  
Registration No. 36,424

February 19, 2002  
Date

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**GROUP 3600**

**BLAKE, CASSELS & GRAYDON LLP**  
Box 25, Commerce Court West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5L 1A9  
Canada

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## ANCHOR SHEET ATTACHMENT DEVICES

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### Related Applications

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This application is a continuation-in-part application of PCT/CA 00/00681 filed June 7, 2000 designating the United States, which application is a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/326,634 filed June 7, 1999, abandoned. Both of these prior applications are incorporated herein by reference. International patent application No. PCT/CA 00/00681 was published in English under Article 21 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty under WO 00/74544 on December 14, 2000.

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### INTRODUCTION TO THE INVENTION

This invention concerns improvements to attach a flexible but relatively rigid anchor sheet for use under carpets or other decorative coverings as described in current inventor's U.S. applications 08/850,726 filed May 2, 1997, 09/008,565 filed January 16, 1998 and 09/008,584 filed January 16, 1998. This application incorporates by reference the teachings of these earlier applications except where those teachings may have been modified by new developments as set out herein. The current inventor has invented an anchor sheet which, when installed, acts to tie decorative covering together as a functional unit and to add mass and stability to such unit, particularly in the case of a unit having a flexible decorative covering such as a carpet. The anchor sheet may be substantially covered over one side with hooks for anchoring a decorative covering to it by engagement of complementary loops on the under side of the decorative covering. The anchor sheet itself may be attached to the underlying substrate, such as a floor or wall, or it may be loose laid on a floor where the anchor sheet can have sufficient mass so as to prevent movement of the anchor sheet. The present invention provides attachment devices so as to minimize attachment of the anchor sheet to the underlying substrate, and to allow for the possibility of spacing between anchor sheet units in order to accommodate atmospheric changes. It is possible to supply the anchor sheet in modular units of various geometric shapes and sizes with corresponding complementary corner pieces.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The earlier cases by the same inventor Pacione disclose an anchor sheet which can be supplied as a small or large module, with or without a pre-attached decorative covering. These earlier cases also disclose the anchor sheet as a modular unit which can form a contiguous mass of anchor sheet. Such a contiguous mass can be formed by attaching the anchor sheets together by some form of overlap or by abutting the anchor sheets to each other and using an overlap of decorative covering or tape. Such mass can be free floating or attached to the floor.